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## TASKFORCE ON THE AGING OF THE AMERICAN WORKFORCE

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### Aging of the American Workforce

With the aging of the baby boom population, the United States is facing an unprecedented demographic change. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, by 2030, 24.2 percent of the population, or about 66.2 million Americans, will be 65 or older, compared to just 15.6 percent in 2000. The “graying” of the American people will have impacts on many aspects of our society, from the health care system to financial markets. In particular, the aging of the population has many implications for the U.S. labor market, including possible labor and skill shortages.

### Taskforce Background

In recognition of the challenges that lie ahead, the Department of Labor has convened an interagency taskforce to focus on the aging of the American workforce and the impact of this demographic change on a number of areas of public policy. This effort responds directly to a recommendation by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) that the Department convene the relevant government agencies to identify strategies to extend the worklife of older Americans, and a request from the Senate Special Committee on Aging to follow through on this recommendation.

### Taskforce Focus

The *Taskforce on the Aging of the American Workforce* has brought together agencies from across the Federal government to work collectively to address the workforce challenges posed by an aging population. The Taskforce is identifying strategies to enhance the ability of older Americans to remain in or re-enter the labor market and pursue self-employment opportunities and enable businesses to take full advantage of this skilled labor pool.

### Taskforce Members

The following Federal agencies are participating on the *Taskforce on the Aging of the American Workforce*, reflecting the interests of these agencies in this important issue:

- Department of Commerce
- Department of Education
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Department of Labor
- Department of Transportation
- Department of the Treasury
- Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
- Small Business Administration
- Social Security Administration

The Taskforce will be chaired by the Department of Labor’s Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training Emily DeRocco.